

DEQ Executive Talking Points on Portland Harbor

- **DEQ is reviewing EPA's draft list of cleanup options for Portland Harbor (the FS):**
 - EPA's draft FS provides adequate information for EPA to recommend a cleanup approach (called the "conceptual remedy", or CR) in September.
 - DEQ is coordinating its review of the FS, and potential CR, with other state agencies and the Governor's office.
 - DEQ will comment and recommend changes to the FS and the CR, in particular:
 - Need clear understanding of benefits of more aggressive alternatives;
 - Need to balance cost against effectiveness and reliability;
 - Minimize restrictions on navigation, recreation, and other important uses of the river;
 - Need clear understanding of expectations (and flexibility) during remedial design to ensure the remedy is constructible;
 - Need agreement on approach for monitoring long-term effectiveness of source control.
- **DEQ's working relationship with EPA is positive and complimentary:**
 - DEQ has worked in a collaborative process with EPA since the site was listed in 2000.
 - DEQ appreciates the efforts EPA recently has made to communicate and receive State input on technical and policy issues and their overall approach to selecting a remedy for the Harbor.
- **DEQ is coordinating with State agencies/Governor's office to provide input to EPA:**
 - State acceptance and concurrence on EPA's cleanup decision is an important part of the federal Superfund process.
 - State agency input is an opportunity to ensure that the State has a voice in assessment of the Harbor and evaluation of cleanup alternatives, including the consideration of potential impacts on uses of the Harbor.
- **The Conceptual Remedy is one step in EPA's process towards selecting a remedy for the Harbor:**
 - DEQ will submit written comments to the National Remedy Review Board and provide verbal testimony at when they convene in Portland in November.
 - DEQ on behalf of the State will submit written comments on EPA's Proposed Plan scheduled for early 2016.
 - The State will inform EPA whether it concurs with their ROD in a formal concurrence letter.
- **DEQ is the lead agency for controlling major sources of pollution to the river:**
 - DEQ in collaboration with EPA has been working to control upland sources of contamination to the river.
 - The source control evaluation is substantially complete and plans are in place to complete remaining source control measures at individual sites and demonstrate their effectiveness.